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**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

DATE: January 18, 2002

SUBJECT: Gary Development Landfill Site Emergency Response

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POLREP 1: Initial

**II. BACKGROUND**

Site: Gary Development Landfill  
Site ID: Z5D8  
FPN: G02009  
Task Order Number: 70  
Response Authority: OPA  
CERLCIS ID: IND 077 005 916

NPL Status: Non-NPL  
State Notification: IDEM  
Latitude/Longitude: 41°36' 46" N / 87°25' 44" W  
Start Date: January 8, 2002  
Completion Date: Pending

**III. SITE INFORMATION**

A. Incident Category

OPA Emergency Response  
Incident Report No. 590489

B. Site Description

1. Site Location

The site is located at 497 North Cline Avenue in Gary, Lake County, Indiana. The site is the former Gary Development Company facility and includes four abandoned buildings, totaling approximately 8,000 ft<sup>2</sup>. The site is immediately adjacent to the Grand Calumet River, and is situated at the southwest corner of the Gary Landfill. The area surrounding the site is primarily industrial/commercial; surrounding businesses include the East Chicago Central Service Facility located to the west.

2. Description of Threat

During a routine inspection conducted by IDEM at the Gary Landfill, (3) potentially leaking 55 gallon drums were identified at the Gary Development Landfill site. The drums appeared to contain an unidentified oil-like substance, and a light sheen was seen on standing water downgradient of the drums, approximately 75 feet from the Grand Calumet River. In addition, 28 other unidentified drums, four above ground storage (AST) tanks, a generator fuel tank, assorted paint cans, small containers of pesticides, an acetylene bottle, and a freon cylinder were found to present on the site.

The Gary Development Landfill site is a potential threat to the Grand Calumet River. Oil discharging into a waterway poses a threat to wildlife that live in or near the waterway; poses a threat to surrounding ecosystems; and impacts the overall downstream water quality. The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), located in *Code of Federal Regulations* Title 40 Part 300, outlines the federal authority in dealing with oil discharging into any navigable waterway.

#### IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current Situation

The three leaking drums have been sampled, overpacked, and staged for disposal. A site assessment, including sampling activities, was conducted. Analytical results are pending.

2. Site Activities to Date

On January 8, 2002, IDEM contacted U.S. EPA regarding potential leaking drums at the Gary Landfill Development site. U.S. EPA then activated the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) and both U.S. EPA and START mobilized to site. At 1600, U.S. EPA and START met with IDEM and conducted an initial site reconnaissance.

After identifying two leaking 55 gallon drums, START collected samples of an oil-like substance to be analyzed for disposal characteristics. Sorbent boom was then placed around the drums as well as downgradient of the drums any additional leaked material.

On January 9, 2001, U.S. EPA, IDEM, START, and an ERRS contractor arrived at the site. ERRS overpacked a total of three leaking drums (the third was discovered between 2 of the buildings during the site assessment) and also containerized the soil immediately impacted by the leaking drums. START conducted a site assessment of the facility, and identified a total of 28 drums, 4 ASTs, and one generator fuel tank. 24 of the drums were identified as either empty or containing a frozen material (water). Four drums were identified as containing an oil-like substance and were sampled for laboratory analysis. Only one of the ASTs had contents (<1/8 full) and was sampled. The generator fuel storage tank was found to be empty. Below is a summary of the ASTs found on site:

Tank ID	Capacity (gallons)	Contents
T-1 (trailer)	5,500	Empty
T-2	360	Empty
T-3	360	Empty
T-4	360	<45
T-5 (trailer)	5,500	Residual sludge

In addition, approximately 30 paint cans and assorted small lubricant containers were identified at the site, as well as small containers of pesticides, a 30 pound cylinder of freon (<1/8 full), and an acetylene cylinder were found to be present on site.

3. Enforcement  
U.S. Coast Guard has initiated internal enforcement procedures. No enforcement actions have been undertaken to date.

B. Next Steps

After reviewing analytical data, U.S. EPA will arrange for a removal action to dispose of the wastes found on site; oil waste will be disposed under OPA and hazardous waste will be disposed under CERCLA.

C. Key Issues

None.

V. **COST INFORMATION**

U.S. EPA	\$ NA	
START	\$ 7,145	
ERRS	\$ <u>NA</u>	
Total	\$	(Estimated as of January 18, 2002)

**The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.**